



## Week 3 Assignment

### Overview

An online learning community is dependent on e-communication. Emails, e-presentations, e-newsletters, e-meetings, and e-publishing are all part of online learning.

In this week's assignment, you will create a wiki, and use your wikispace to invite colleagues, preferably at your school and grade level, to join you in establishing an online learning community.

## Rubric

Use the following Rubric to guide your work on the Week 3 Assignment.

<b>Tasks</b> ↓	<b>Accomplished</b> <b>10</b>  The evidence suggests that this work is a "Habit of Mind." The educator is ready to mentor others in this area.	<b>Proficient</b> <b>8</b>  The evidence suggests that performance on this work matches that of a strong educator.	<b>Needs Improvement</b> <b>6</b>  The evidence does not yet make the case for the educator being proficient at this task.
<b>Creating a Wiki</b>	Student successfully creates a wiki and provides required information.	Student successfully creates a wiki and provides required information.	Student does not create a wiki or provide wiki information.
<b>Inviting Wiki Members</b>	Student identifies four or more colleagues who have accepted invitations to join the wiki.	Student identifies 2-3 colleagues who have accepted invitations to join the wiki.	Student does not identify colleagues who have joined the wiki.
<b>Creating a Wiki Home Page</b>	Student successfully creates a wiki home page, and provides thoughtful analysis of the benefits and challenges of using a wiki to communicate and collaborate with colleagues.	Student successfully creates a wiki home page, and provides brief analysis of the benefits and challenges of using a wiki.	Wiki home page is not created, and/or student does not provide analysis on the benefits and challenges of using wiki.
<b>Assignment Mechanics</b>	Responses are relevant to course content; no errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation.	Responses are relevant to course content; few errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation.	Responses do not reflect knowledge of course content, lack clarity and depth, and/or include multiple errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, including APA errors.

### Week 3 Assignment, Part 1: Creating a Wiki

A wiki is an excellent tool for establishing and facilitating an online learning community. Through the wiki, community members can collaboratively plan, share information, reflect on the information, and communicate with each other.

For Part 1 of your Week 3 Assignment, you will set up a wiki account. You will then invite colleagues, preferably at your campus and grade level, to join you in using the wiki to establish an online learning community.

To complete this assignment:

- Enter the following address into your web address bar: <http://www.wikispaces.com>
- On the right side of the screen under “Get Started,” fill out the first three boxes with a username, password, and your email address.
- Record your information in the space below.

Website Name and Address	Website's Purpose	My Username	My Password	My URL
<b>Bringing White Oak Middle School into the 21st Century</b>	to explain White Oak Middle Schools STaR Chart Data over the past three years, and to discuss with colleagues possible solutions to increase the use of technology on our campus. According to the data in the Texas STaR chart, our campus' greatest weakness is in the educator Preparation and Development area. Our campus is falling behind in its ability to offer informative and useful professional development opportunities. The training that is offered is basic training, they do not offer training to help our teachers create student-centered lesson plans.	Jdgreer01	Phiphi	Technologyatwoms.wikispaces.com

## Week 3 Assignment, Part 2: Inviting Wiki Members

To complete this assignment:

- Enter the following address into your web address bar: <http://www.wikispaces.com>
- On the left side of the screen under the word “Actions,” click on “Make a New Space.” This will take you to “Make a New Space Now.”
- In the box next to “Space Name,” give your space a name, which will be the URL to your newly created site.
- On the next page, be sure that “Protected” is selected at “Space Visibility.” All spaces must have permissions set to “Protected” to ensure integrity of your work. This will keep the public from modifying anything on your page. Only members of your wikispace will be able to edit content. Click “Join.”
- Close the “Getting Started with Your Wikispace” popup box.
- Click on the “Manage Space” link on the upper left-hand side of the page.
- Under “Space Settings,” click “Members and Permissions” link.
- Under “Invite a New Member,” key in one email address of a colleague who wants to join your wiki. Click “Invite.”
- When the invitation appears, you can add the other email addresses in the “To” bar. Insert commas between each email address. Edit the message to include your invitation to join the online learning community. *Did you invite me to join your wiki?* Click “Send.”

In the space below, list the people who have accepted invitations to join your wiki. You don’t have to provide their names, simply list them as “third-grade teacher,” “science department chair,” etc.

7th Grade Social Studies 8th Grade ELA 8th Grade Science 8th Grade Social Studies 8th Grade Math School Librarian School Administrator
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### Week 3 Assignment, Part 3: Creating a Wiki Home Page

After the colleagues at your school respond to the invitation to join the wiki, you will now create a wiki home page for the online learning community.

Before setting up your home page:

- Access the “Wikis in Plain English” video by entering the following address in your web address bar:  
[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=wikis+in+plain+English&search\\_type=](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=wikis+in+plain+English&search_type=)
- This video will provide you with additional information about using wiki as a tool for collaboration.

To set up your home page:

- Enter the following address into your address bar: <http://www.wikispaces.com>
- Under “Navigation” on the top left of the screen, click “Home.” You will edit this page to create a Home page for your online learning community.
- Click “Edit This Page” at the top of the screen, and create your home page in the space. As you create the home page, keep in mind that the goal of the online learning community is to improve technology use and integration at your campus.
- On the home page, include the following:
  - The name of your online learning community and campus location.
  - The names of the members and their positions (grade level/content area).
  - The purpose of the online learning community. (Remember, the goal of the online learning community is to improve technology use and integration at your campus. Support your purpose statement with data that you collected in the Project 1 Analysis and Project 2 Application.)
  - One question to get the members’ ideas flowing. (Relate the question you pose to the data you collected from the Texas Star Chart.)
  - Other members may add to the list of questions, or click Discussion and enter their comments. The wikispace  
<http://coeprofessionaldevelopment.wikispaces.com/> also contains an example discussion page.
- Click “Save,” and answer the questions provided below.

How do you envision using the wiki to facilitate an online learning community? What are the benefits of using this tool? What are the challenges?

First of all I envision the wiki as an opportunity for my colleagues and I to collaborate towards attaining our goal of integrating technology at our campus. Secondly, I also envision the wiki creating various discussions about new ideas concerning the role of technology in our classrooms. Finally, I see the wiki as an opportunity for educators from around the world to comment and share their experiences in our online community.

I believe that there are several benefits of using a wiki. First the student will have a feeling of ownership and they will feel as if they belong to a community of online learning. A wiki will also contribute to students enhancing and building on the following skills: collaboration with others, debating, and writing and editing skills. Finally, a wiki will help sharpen a students research and

development skills, because their work is visible to so many other participants, that they will have to double check their information for accuracy.

The use of a wiki in the classroom can be a valuable technological tool, but there are a few challenges that I foresee integrating the wiki into the learning process. The first challenge I believe that needs to be addressed is creating an assignment that is meaningful and captures the students' attention. Another challenge that could cause a problem is grading the students' work. I think it would be difficult to not only grade a final product, but also grade the students' progress towards the final outcome. Finally, did the students walk away from the assignment understanding the concepts and the role that technology played in the completion of the assignment.